

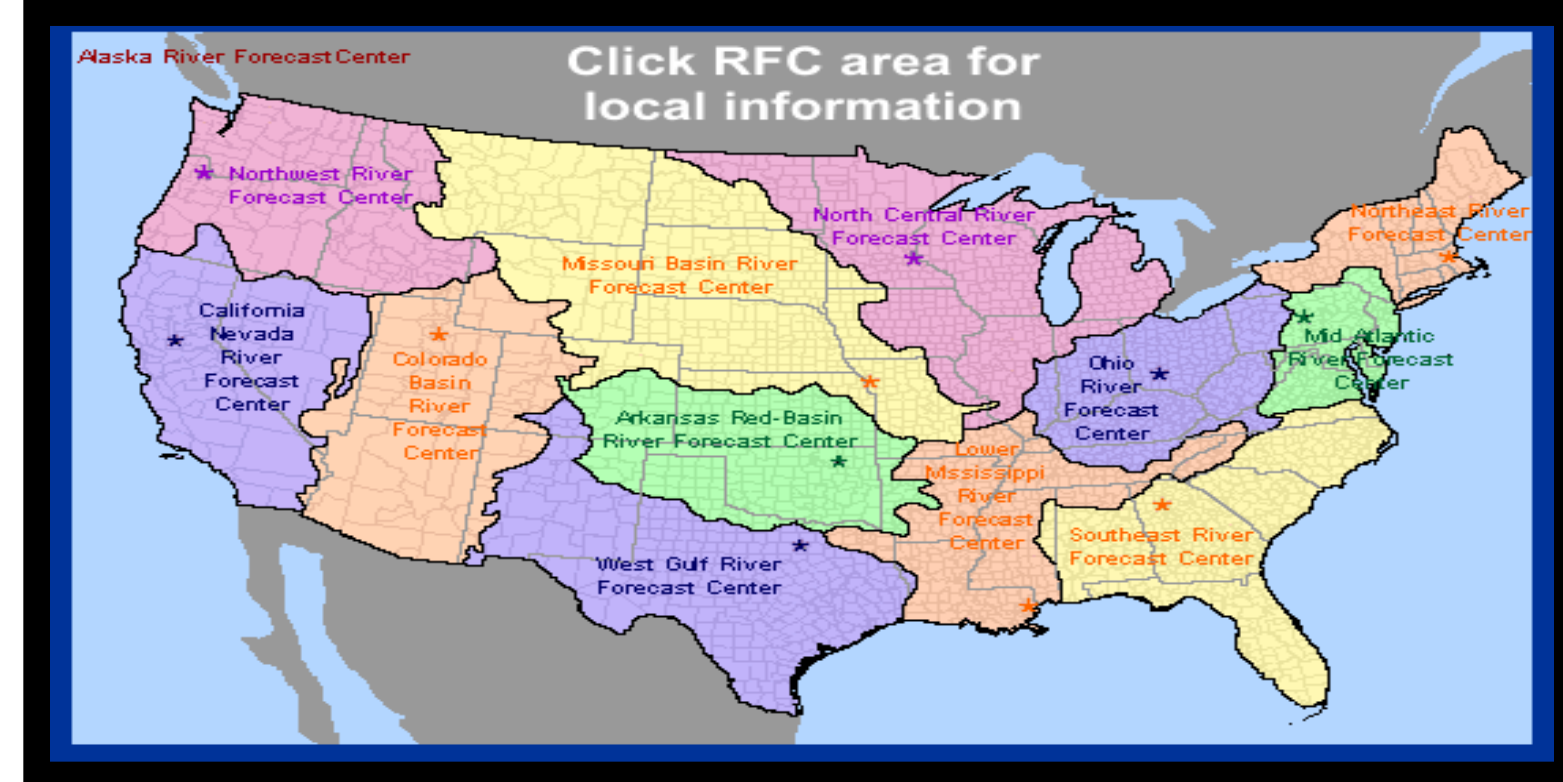
# National Weather Service, Jacksonville FL

## The Advanced Hydrologic Prediction Service (AHPS)

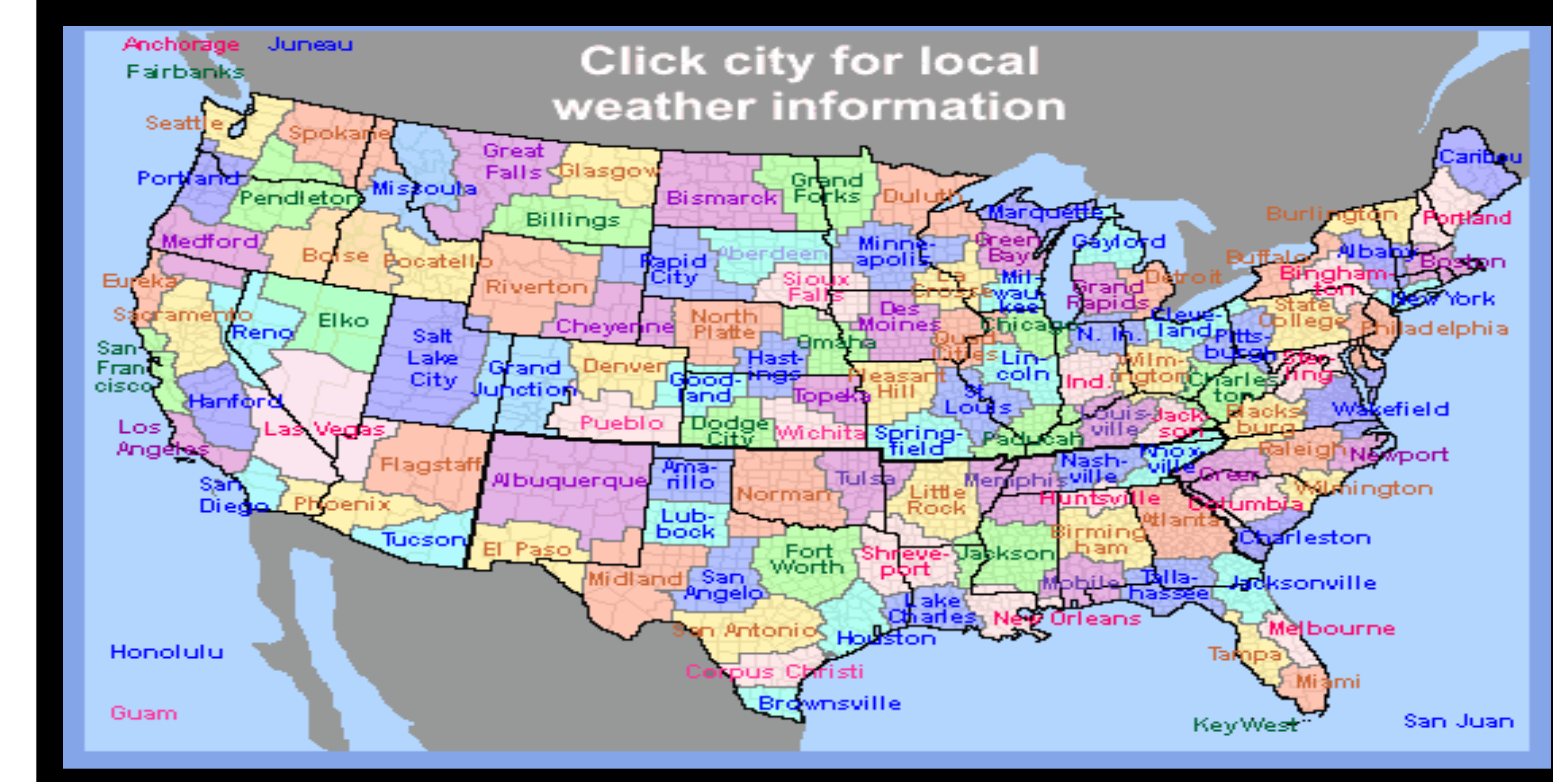


Each year, floods kill more people than any other form of severe weather, and cause damages in excess of \$3.5 billion. Three-quarters of all presidentially declared disasters are the result of flooding. Clearly, hydrologic forecasting is critical to public safety and the economy. AHPS river, flood and drought forecasts are prepared by hydrologists and meteorologists at the NWS's 13 River Forecast Centers and 122 Weather Forecast Offices.

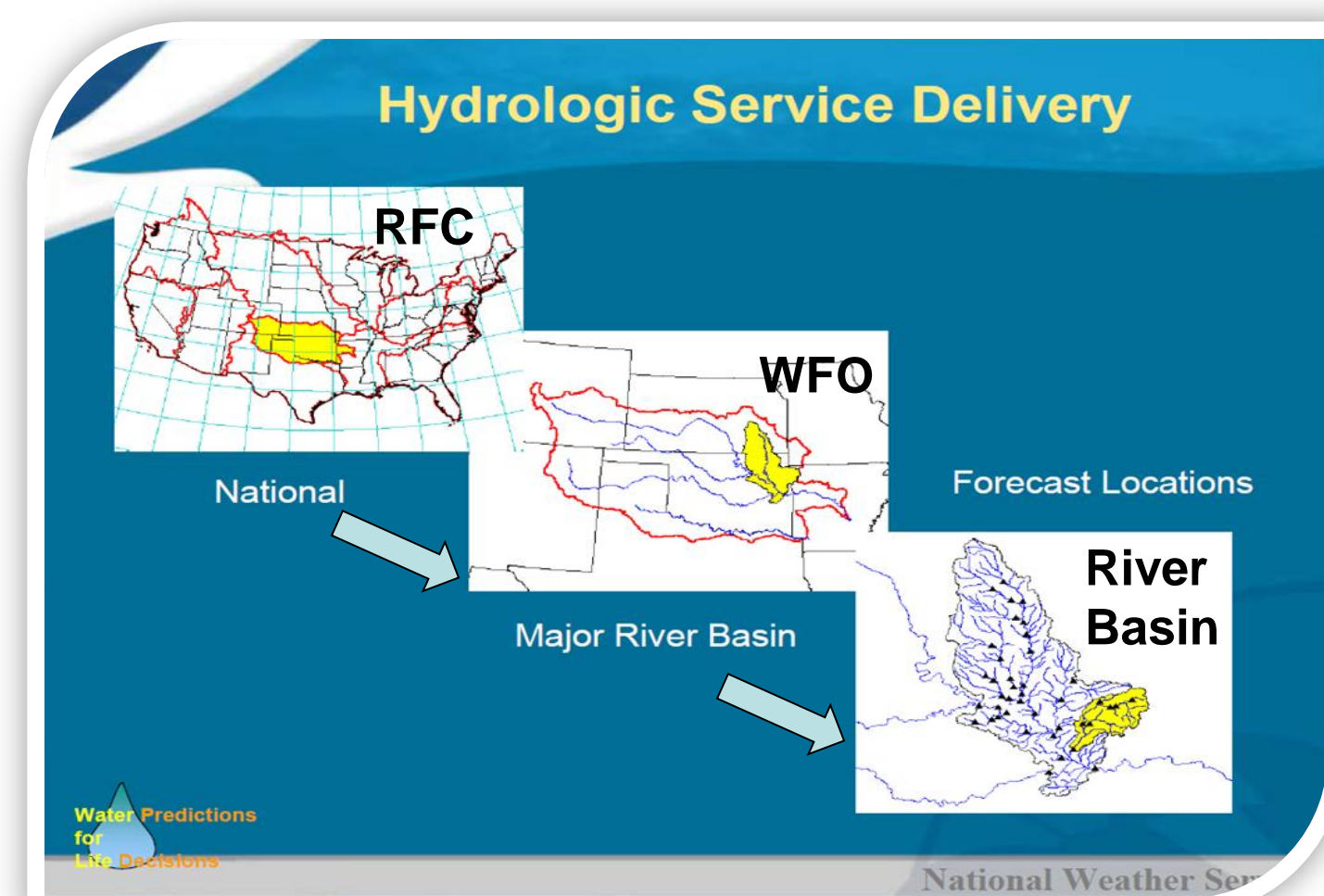
### RIVER FORECAST CENTERS (RFCs)



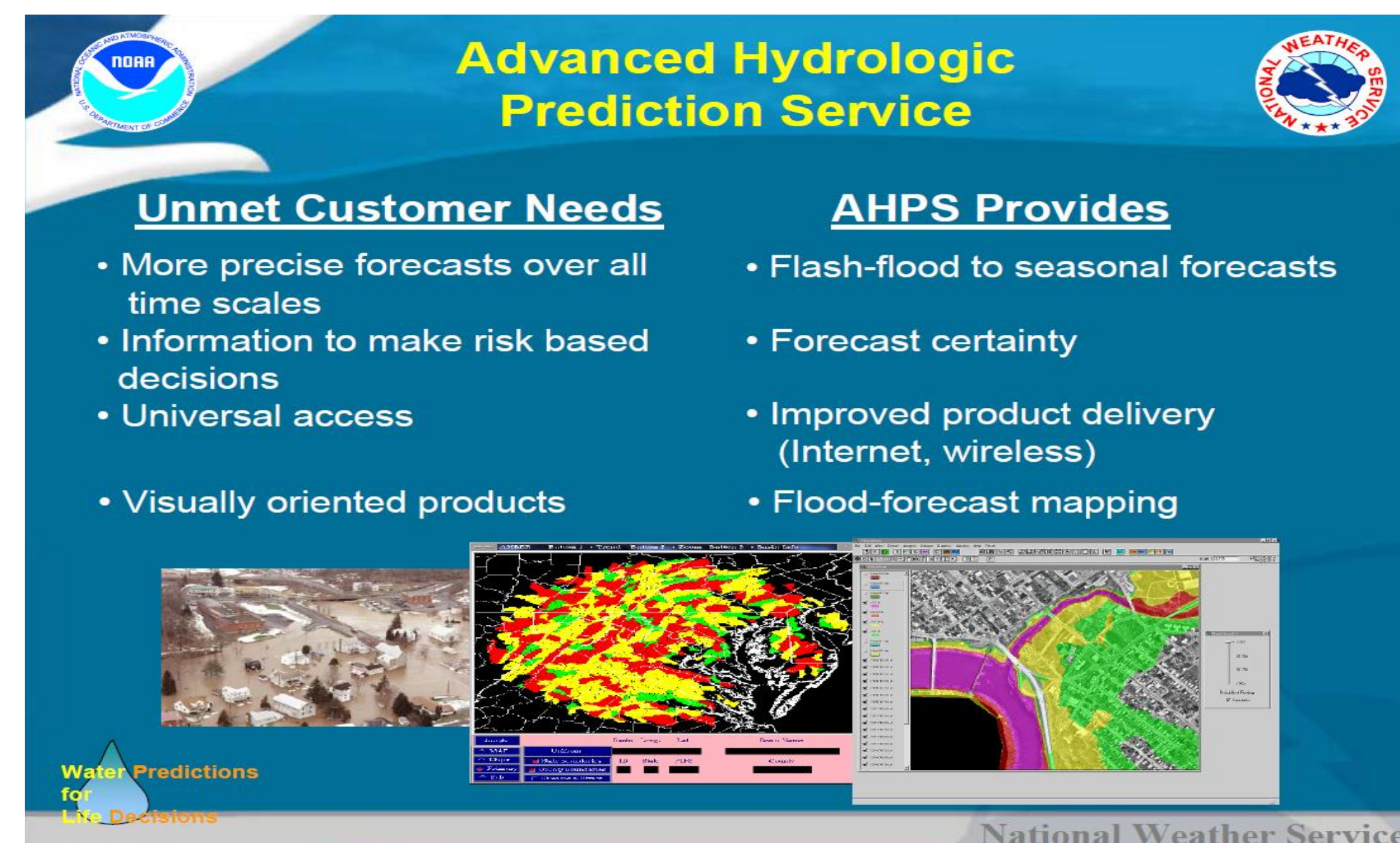
### WEATHER FORECAST OFFICES (WFOs)



The National Weather Service serves the weather- and flood-related needs of the nation through 13 River Forecast Centers and 122 Weather Forecast Offices.



AHPS provides enhanced flood warnings and water resource forecasts leveraging NOAA's infrastructure and expertise.



AHPS provides more detailed and improved forecast products to meet customer needs.

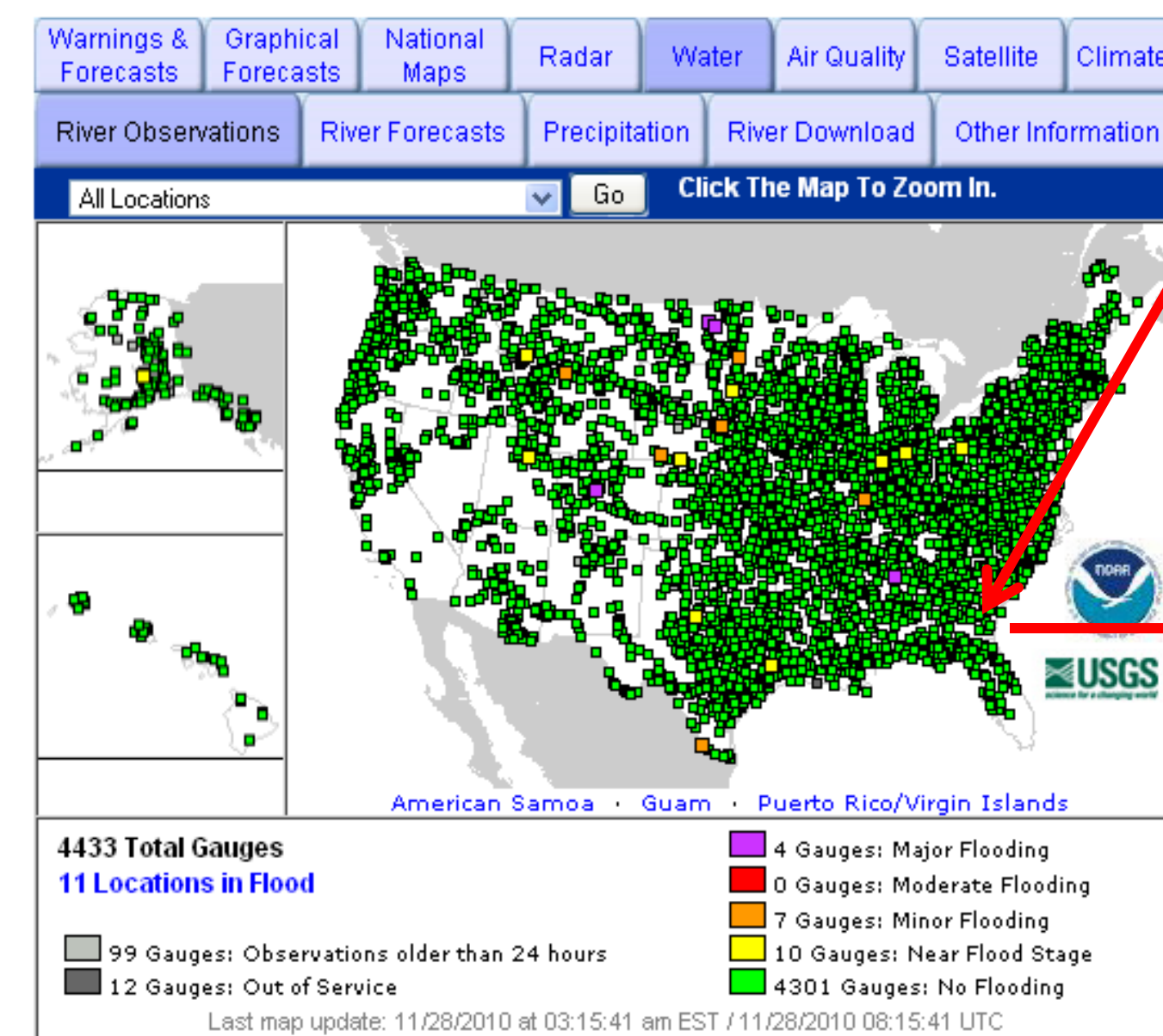
AHPS provides better information to water managers and city officials, helping them make the following decisions:

- when and where to evacuate people from potential flood areas, thus saving more lives
- when to move goods and property from flooded areas, thus contributing to economic savings
- how to utilize reservoir storage capacity to reduce flood impacts on people and businesses
- when to reinforce levees and at what level, to reduce damage to areas nearby

AHPS provides forecasts of river levels and river flow volumes from an hour to a season for areas large and small, including the following river forecast information:

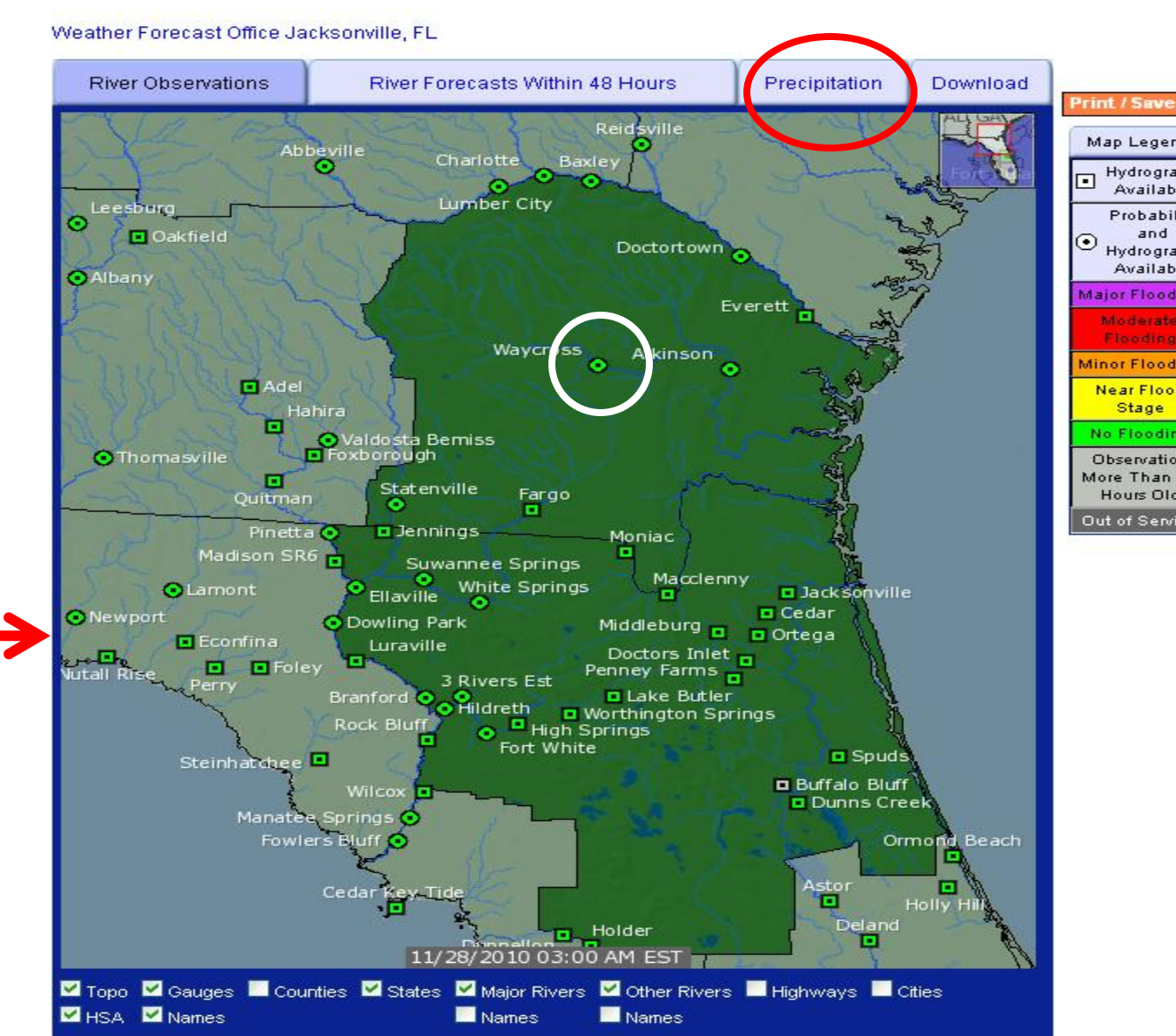
- How high the river will rise
- When the river will reach its peak
- Where property will be flooded
- How long flooding will continue
- How long a drought will last

### NATIONAL MAP



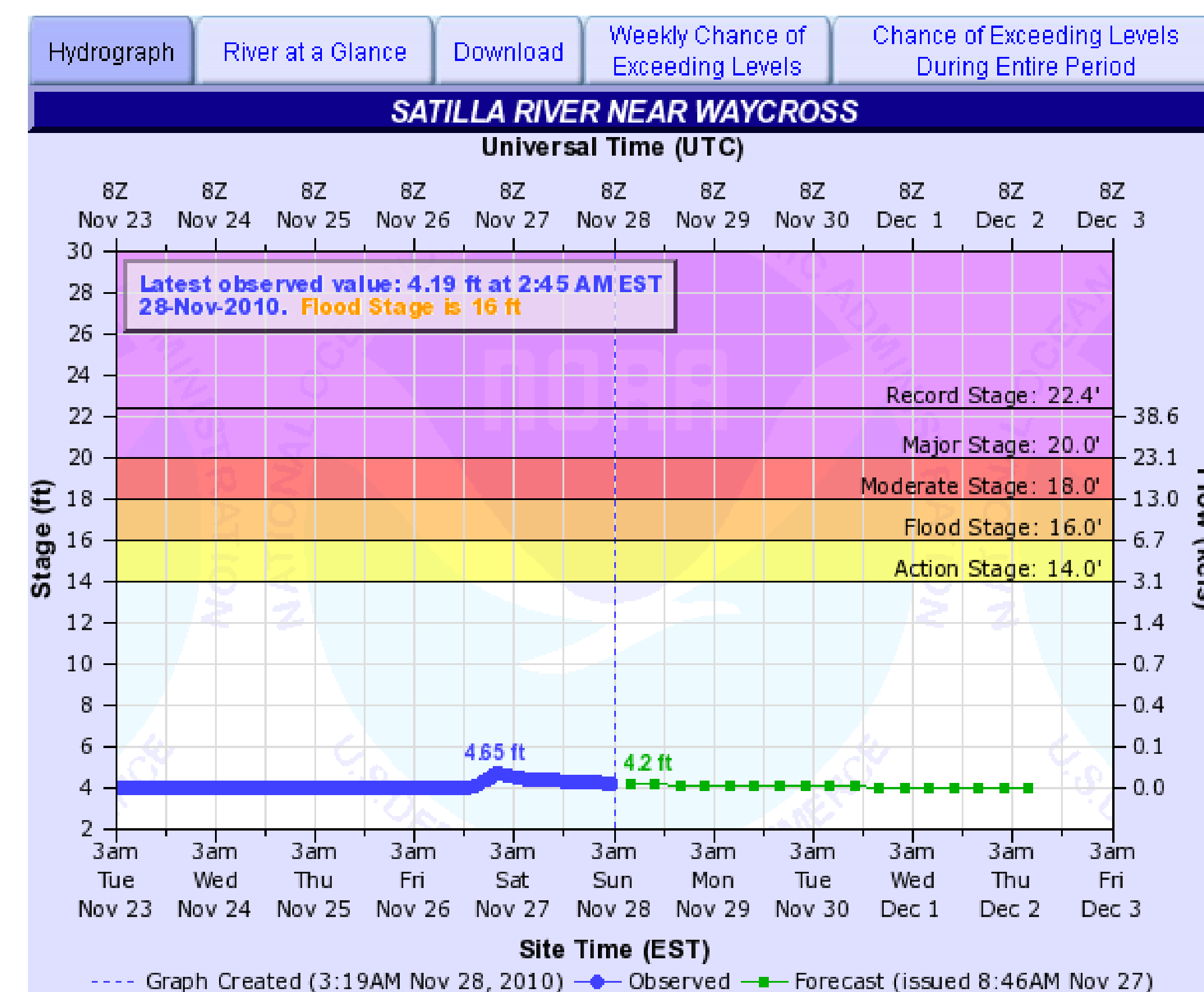
The above web page (water.weather.gov) shows the flood status at all National Weather Service river forecast locations.

### REGIONAL MAP



This web page shows the flood status of river forecast locations in the selected region. Selecting a specific river location provides access to localized information.

### HYDROGRAPH



The Hydrograph provides recent observations, and for some locations, will also include a forecast for the next few days. This page will also include a map of the location, historical crest information, flood impacts, as well as additional information specific to the specific location chosen.



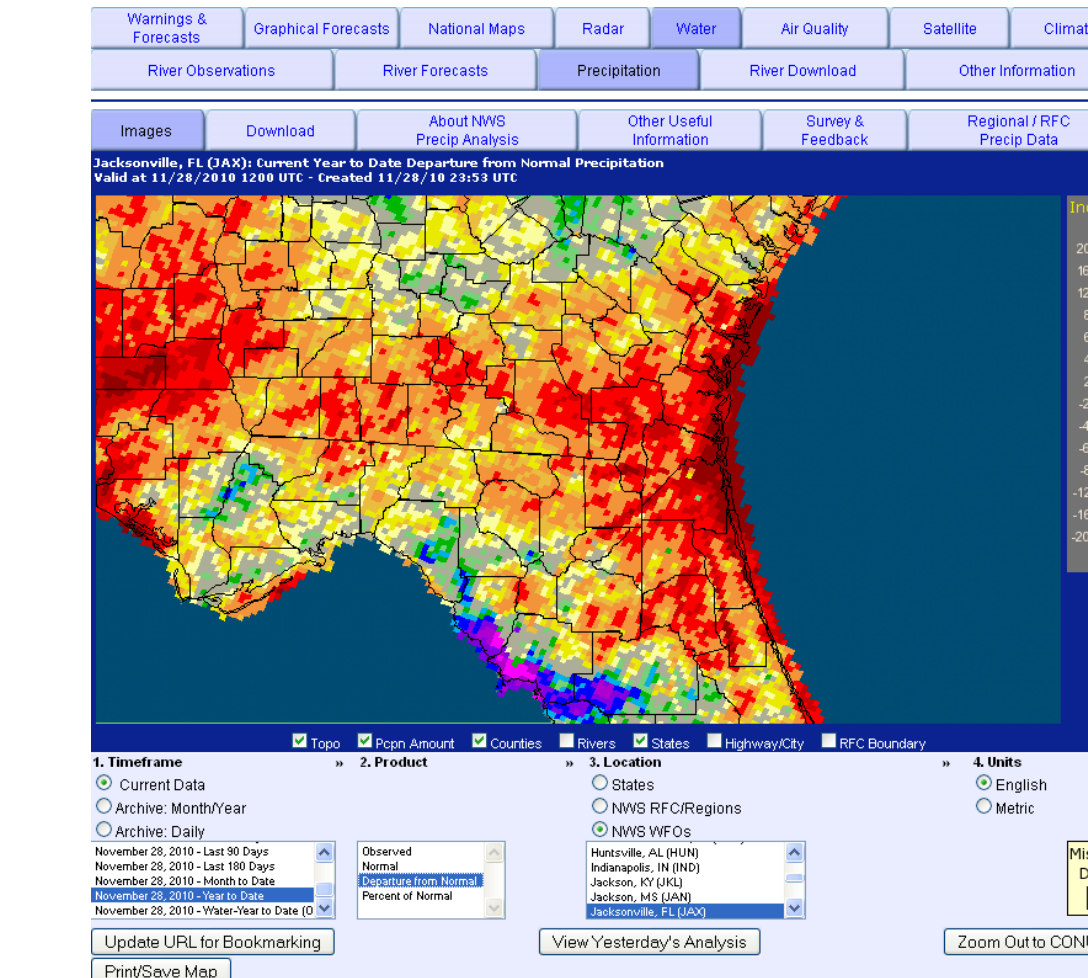
Flood Impacts	
20	Effects railroad bridge. Rail traffic must be rerouted.
16	Flooding of agriculture and timber lands begins at 16 feet.
Flood Categories (in feet)	
Major Flood Stage: 20	
Moderate Flood Stage: 18	
Flood Stage: 16	
Action Stage: 14	
MINOR FLOOD	
Minimal or no property damage, but possibly some public threat.	
MODERATE FLOOD	
Some inundation of structures and roads. Significant evacuations of people and property.	
MAJOR FLOOD	
Extensive inundation of structures and roads. Significant evacuations of people and property.	

Historical Crests  
(1) 22.40 ft on 04/04/1948  
(2) 22.36 ft on 04/05/2009  
(3) 22.20 ft on 08/01/1928  
(4) 21.53 ft on 03/07/1991  
(5) 20.29 ft on 03/10/1983

The National Weather Service (NWS) is responsible for providing our nation's flood warnings and water resource forecasts. These warnings and forecasts are critical to public safety and the economy. The NWS is improving these warnings and forecasts with the Advanced Hydrologic Prediction Service (AHPS).

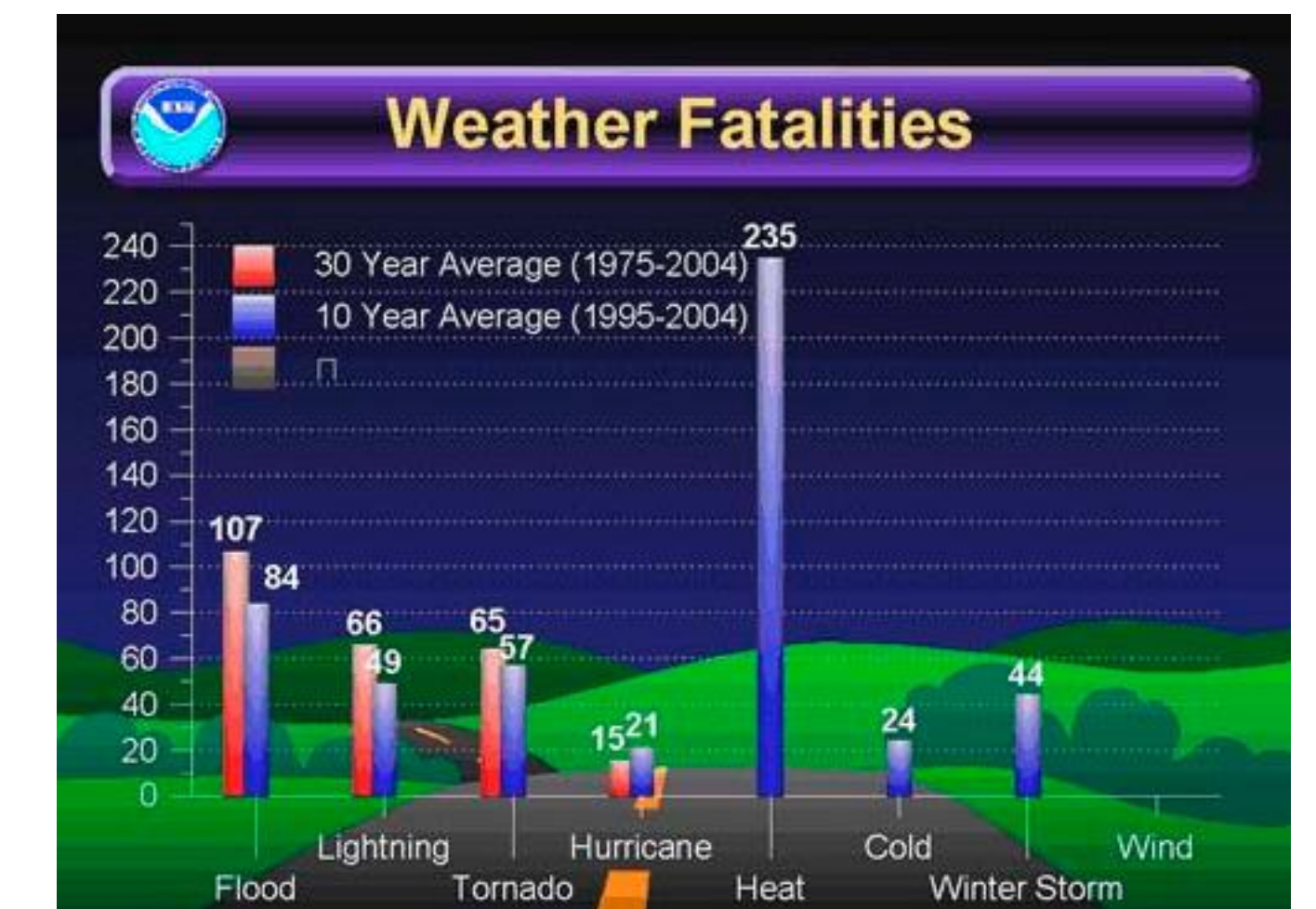
AHPS will save lives and an estimated \$200 million per year in flood losses, and will contribute an additional \$400 million per year in economic benefits to water resource users.

### ESTIMATED RAINFALL MAPS



One can click on the precipitation tab above the regional map (see image above) to get rainfall estimates for a user defined period of time.

### Floods are a top weather-related killer!



More people die from floods each year than from lightning, tornadoes, or hurricanes.

